### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA CASE NO.: 22-cv-20917-WILLIAMS

<b>ENR</b>	IOI	JE.	M.	AD	RI	VΑ	N
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Plaintiff,

v.

VE RESTAURANT GROUP LLC d/b/a
BARSECCO/PAPERFISH, 1414 BRICKELL LLC,
MIAMI DADE COUNTY and THE CITY OF MIAMI

Defendants.

# DEFENDANT VE RESTAURANT GROUP LLC'S d/b/a BARSECCO/PAPERFISH ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES TO COMPLAINT

Defendant, VE RESTAURANT GROUP LLC d/b/a BARSECCO/PAPERFISH, files its Answer and Affirmative Defenses to the Complaint.

### **General Allegations**

- 1. Denied.
- 2. Defendant is without knowledge of the allegations in Paragraph 2.
- 3. Defendant is without knowledge of the allegations in Paragraph 3.
- 4. Denied.
- 5. Denied.

## Count I - Negligence Against the Defendant VE Restaurant Group LLC d/b/a Barsecco/Paperfish

- 6. Paragraphs 1 to 5 above are realleged.
- 7. Admitted.
- 8. Denied.

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9.	Denied.
10.	Denied.
11.	Denied.
12.	Denied.
13.	Denied.
14.	Denied.
15.	Denied.
16.	Denied.
17.	Denied.
18.	Denied.
19.	Denied.
20.	Denied.
21.	Denied.
	Count V - Violation of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") 42 U.S.C. 12181
73.	Paragraphs 1 to 5 above are realleged.
74.	Denied.
75.	Denied.
76.	Defendant is without knowledge of the allegations in Paragraph 76.
77.	Defendant is without knowledge of the allegations in Paragraph 77.
78.	Defendant is without knowledge of the allegations in Paragraph 78.
79.	Admitted.
80.	Denied.

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81. Denied.

82. Denied.

83. Denied.

84. Denied.

85. Denied.

86. Denied.

87. Denied.

88. Denied.

89. Denied.

90. Denied.

91. Denied.

92. Denied.

93. Denied.

94. Denied.

95. Denied.

96. Denied.

97. Denied.

98. Denied.

99. Denied.

100. Denied.

101. Denied.

102. Denied.

103. Denied.

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104. Denied.

105. Denied.

106. Denied.

107. Denied.

108. Denied.

109. Denied.

110. Denied.

111. Denied.

112. Denied.

113. Denied.

114. Denied.

115. Denied.

116. Denied.

117. Denied.

118. Denied.

119. Denied.

120. Denied.

121. Denied.

122. Denied.

123. Denied.

124. Denied.

125. Denied.

126. Denied.

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127. Denied.

128. Denied.

129. Denied.

130. Denied.

131. Denied.

132. Denied.

133. Denied.

134. Denied.

135. Denied.

136. Denied.

137. Denied.

138. Denied.

139. Denied.

140. Denied.

141. Denied.

142. Denied.

143. Denied.

144. Denied.

145. Denied.

146. Denied.

147. Denied.

### **Affirmative Defenses**

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1. Defendant is entitled to a set-off and reduction pursuant to Sections 768.31 and 768.76, Florida Statutes, and any other applicable law, for benefits Plaintiff has received, or is

entitled to receive payment under, from a collateral source, potential tortfeasor or any other source.

2. Defendant has made good faith efforts to comply with the ADA requirements.

3. Plaintiff's claim of negligence fails because Plaintiff assumed the risks in

navigating through the property while cognizant of the potential for self injury. This includes

Plaintiff recklessly placing himself into the underlying circumstance.

4. Defendant states that Plaintiff's alleged damages resulted from independent,

unforeseeable, superseding and/or intervening causes, including intentional acts by other persons,

unrelated to any conduct of the Defendant.

5. Defendant states that Plaintiff has unclean hands through improper acts and

omissions. This includes Plaintiff purposefully placing himself into the underlying circumstance

with premeditated efforts to create this lawsuit for pecuniary gain.

6. Defendant states that the claims are barred pursuant to the doctrine of comparative

fault. Any award of damages should proportionately be reduced by the extent of Plaintiff's and/or

other Defendants' culpability.

7. Defendant states that it is entitled to list all *Fabre* defendants on the Verdict Form

as such unknown third parties may be responsible for causing the alleged damaged.

8. Defendant intends to seek attorney fees and costs at the conclusion of this case

pursuant to all applicable law including the ADA and Florida law.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day of May 2, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed with the Clerk of Southern District of Florida by using CM/ECF, which will send an automatic e-mail message to all parties registered with the e-Filing Portal system.

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